RECOGNIZING MAY AS "ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH"

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is recognized nationally each year during the month of May since 1992; and

WHEREAS, Virginia is fortunate to be home for more than 500,000 residents of Asian and Pacific Islander descent; and

WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau found that the Asian Pacific American population has grown faster than any other racial or ethnic group in Virginia over the last decade, surging more than 74 percent between 2000 and 2010, a growth rate more than four times faster than the total Virginia population; and

WHEREAS, the Asian Pacific American community is an inherently diverse population, comprised of over 40 distinct ethnicities and over 100 language dialects; and

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Americans have achieved recognition as governors, mayors, members of Congress, astronauts, judges, actors, professional athletes, scientists and many other notable careers; and

WHEREAS, thirty-three Asian Pacific Americans have earned the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for bravery in combat; and

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Americans, through advocating issues of justice and equality continue to break down barriers of discrimination, indifference and intolerance, while at the same time expounding civic responsibility and inclusiveness, thereby opening doors for all Asian Pacific Americans; and

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Americans have a rich and varied cultural tradition, and through their entrepreneurial spirit, focus on education, and belief in strong families and the rule of law, serve as value adding members of the community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors recognizes May as "Asian Pacific American Heritage Month," and celebrates the many contributions of Asian Pacific Americans to the strength of our county, our state and our nation.

Joseph P. Casey, Ph.D. County Administrator

Dorothy Jaeckle, Chair

Poste (Istaley T. Haley, Vice Chair

Murtyker M. Wh Christopher M. Winslow Jim Holland

James M. "Jim" Holland

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Stephen A. Elswick